FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NCRTD DRIVERS RISE TO FRIENDLY CHALLENGE AND TAKE TOP AWARDS AT THE 2011 NEW MEXICO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ROAD-E-O!

Santa Fe, May 3, 2011 - The North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD) proudly announces that their drivers placed First, Second and Third in the annual, statewide van and bus rodeo. The competition was held at Buffalo Thunder Resort in conjunction with the New Mexico Public Transportation Association Conference and Expo.

For a third straight year, NCRTD Driver, Mike Molina, took 1st place in the van competition. Mike competed against other drivers from various transportation agencies across the state including some of his NCRTD colleagues and drivers from NCRTD member entities. Mike is now eligible to compete in the Community Transportation Association of America National Competition in the van category in Indianapolis, IN, June 5, 2011. At the annual event in 2010, Mike placed second in the national competition in the van category.

Second place honors went to van driver, Nick Molina, and third place also went to an NCRTD driver, Joey Olonia. The three winners will be honored at the NCRTD Board meeting, Friday, May 6, 2011. It will be held at Buffalo Thunder Resort. The NCRTD was also proudly represented in the local competition by Jose Palomares and Joe Casias in the van category, and Michelle Law in the bus category. In all, there were 27 participants in the van competition and 20 in the bus category from across New Mexico.

Other NCRTD member entities had a great showing placing in five out of six spots in this statewide competition. Atomic City Transit from Los Alamos should be recognized for taking home top honors in the bus competition.

“We believe that because the NCRTD is committed to providing extensive driver and safety training for our driver operators, it has increased our safety capacity and has elevated our drivers within the industry. Our drivers have represented us well. We will all be cheering for Mike as he competes in the national finals.” said Ivan Guillen, Regional Operations Manager.

The North Central Regional Transit District provides free bus service in north central New Mexico including Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and Taos Counties. Visit the NCRTD website at www.ncrtd.org or call toll free 1-866-206-0754 for schedules.

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